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Friday, July 18, 2014

COMMUNITY: Accessible swing unveiled in Sunset Park

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES/SUNMEDIA

Vince, 12, tries out the new accessible swing at Sunset Park in Stroud, Wednesday. He is joined by, from left, Innisfil Coun. Doug Lougheed, Innisfil Gentlemen's Hockey League member Mike Magill, Mayor Barb Baguley, Coun. Lynn Dollin, and IGHL member Mike Power. The IGHL donated $1000 to purchase the swing. Story on Page 8.

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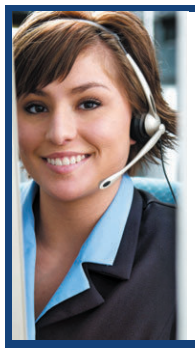

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Costs jump for fire stations

MIRIAM KING
QMI Agency

INNISFIL — The Town of Innisfil will be building two new fire stations in Cookstown and Lefroy, but the price tag has jumped substantially from the original estimates.

Plans called for the construction of an 11,200-square-foot fire station in Lefroy, that would serve as the new headquarters for administration, fire prevention and training, as well as housing a complement of both full-time and volunteer firefighters.

The Cookstown station would be approximately 9,000 sq. ft. in size, with a facade that fits in with the heritage attributes of the Victorian-era village.

The original budget for the two stations, including the cost of land, was almost $5.9 million. There is currently just shy of $5 million remaining in the capital budget for construction.

The town issued requests for proposal, and four bids were received, all substantially over the original budget, ranging from $6.782 million to $7.683 million for construction alone.

Add in so-called "soft" costs — such as utility hook-ups, furnishings, fixtures and equipment, information technology and contingencies — and the cost jumps another $535,000.

On July 9, council was asked to approve an additional expenditure of more than $2.3 million to allow construction of the two stations to proceed, representing a 39% increase over the original budget, noted Coun. Richard Simpson, who asked if the prices were in line with other new fire stations.

"We are very close with Wasaga," Fire Chief Jon Pegg said in regard to both size and cost.

"This is one of those Catch-22 situations," said Coun. Doug Lougheed, suggesting the town was either looking at increasing the budget for the new stations or continuing to pour money into the existing buildings with no guarantee that costs won't escalate further. "We've seen in a couple of years ... how the estimates are out of whack."

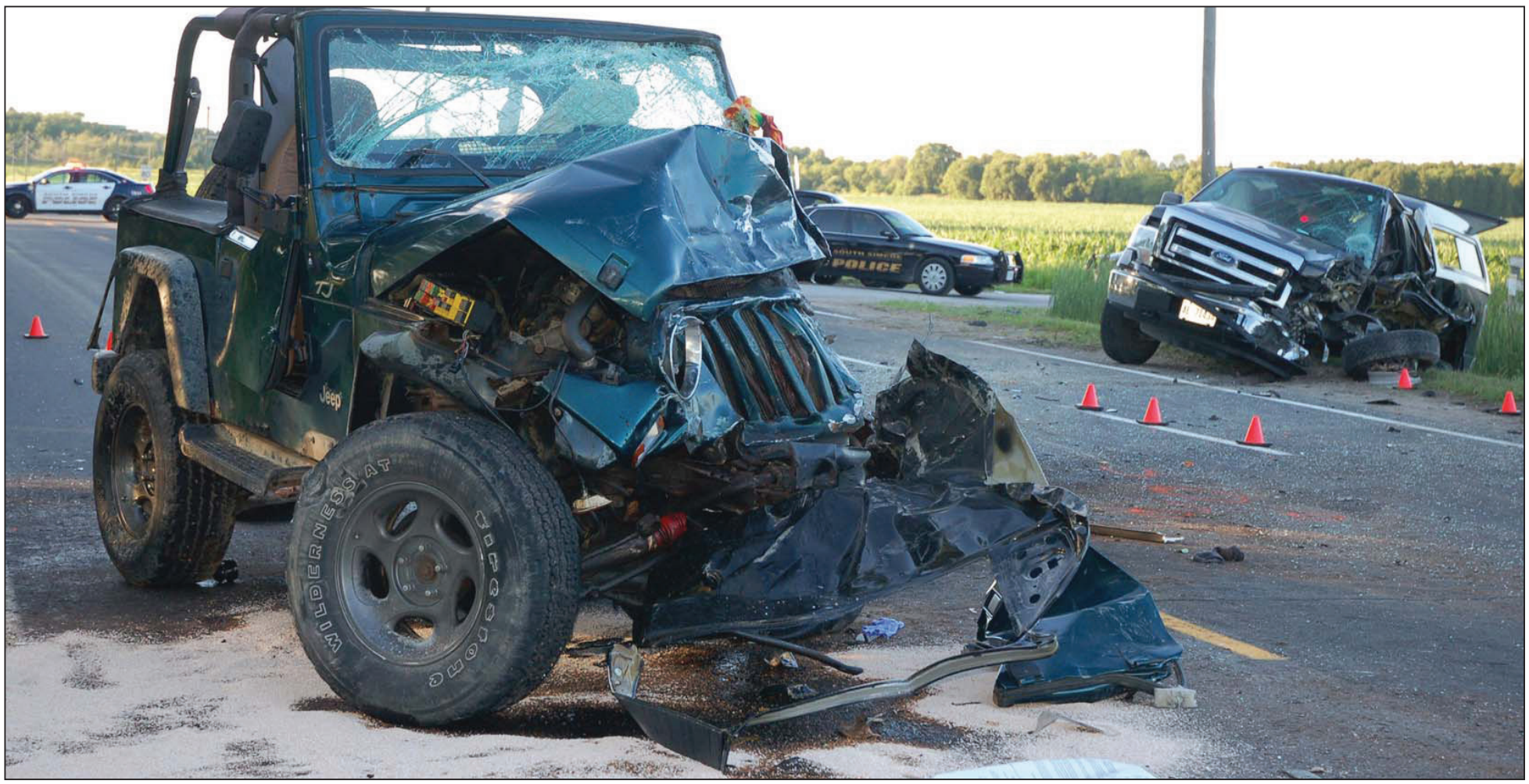
Mayor Barb Baguley noted that the original estimates did not include any fixtures or furnishings, and that the town's new approach to financial stability by setting aside a capital reserve each year will allow the municipality to be "more agile" in choosing when to build.

"Both of those facilities need to be replaced yesterday, if not before," she added.

Council approved the increase of $2.3 million, increasing the long-term debt of $4.139 million by another $1.53 million.

Lougheed pointed out that two-thirds of the additional cost was growth-related, and would be recovered from development charges levied on new development.

The remaining $797,512 non-growth-related cost will be covered with funds from the alternative revenue source reserve fund (from Ontario Lottery and Gaming), so that there is no impact on the taxpayer.



Drivers injured in head-on collision

South Simcoe police say the Jeep was southbound Tuesday on County Rd. 27, at Bradford West Gwillimbury's 13th Line, when it swerved to avoid a vehicle stopped waiting to make a left turn.

Police say the Jeep's driver lost control and entered the northbound lanes, where it struck the truck. The Jeep's 20-year-old driver was taken by ORNGE air ambulance to a Toronto trauma centre. Police say he has two broken legs, a dislocated hip and a broken right wrist. He was in surgery Wednesday afternoon and is expected to survive, police said.

The pickup's 58-year-old driver was taken to a Toronto trauma centre with serious, but non-life-threatening internal injuries. Police have ruled out alcohol as a factor in this crash, instead pointing to speed. Any witnesses are asked to call Const. Steve Black at 905-775-3311 or 705-436-2141, ext. 2030.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES/SUNMEDIA

The Oddballs Team, riding in the Enbridge Ride to Conquer Cancer, has grown from just two members - Gavin Maclean and his brother-in-law Tim MacDonald, who was diagnosed with Testicular cancer - to 32 riders this year, including spouses and family members. On July 12, the team got together in Stroud, Innisfil, for a BBQ - celebrating having raised over $87,000 this year alone.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES/SUNMEDIA

More and more Oddballs

Local riding team have expanded their efforts to help fight cancer

MIRIAM KING
QMI AGENCY

Seven years ago, The Oddballs, a team registered in the Enbridge Ride to Conquer Cancer, consisted of just two members. "It started off with me and my brother-in-law, Tim (MacDonald)," says Gavin Maclean. "He had testicular cancer" - hence the team's name.

Every year, the team grew in size - and this year, the 32 riders included spouses and family members, raising over $87,000 for cancer research and programs at the Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto. Over the past seven years, the Oddballs have raised more than $275,000 to conquer cancer - and there's no end in sight.

"It's crazy how we just seemed to explode," says MacDonald, noting that the numbers doubled this year, up from 15 riders in 2013 - and will likely reach 50 for 2015. And, he says, all of the riders completed the 2-day, 200K route.

Team members are serious about their fundraising.

"As a team, we do a golf tournament, we do Bingo, we do Sno-Pitch at Winterfest," says Maclean, also getting together at events that included a post-Ride BBQ in Stroud, Innisfil, on July 12.

There are always stories, and personal challenges. One rider only told his team-mates that he had been diagnosed with colon cancer after he had completed the Ride.

And another long-time participant was unable to ride this year, just diagnosed with kidney cancer. The team responded by wearing t-shirts that read, "Riding for Mike."

Contract Law – Terms you Might have Heard

What is a Mutual Release?

A mutual release is a legally binding agreement or contract where both parties agree to release each other from any on-going, potential or further liability. This agreement therefore releases the 'injured' party from any rights to sue the other party, releasing any rights to legal claims arising out of a given situation example an accident or termination.

Such agreements are final settlements and are generally enforced by a court of law, provided that there is adequate consideration and that the release is reasonable. Consideration on the part of both parties is required for a release agreement to be valid. In other words, for the court to enforce the release agreement and prohibit someone from suing based upon it, both sides must have exchanged something valuable. For example, in order for an employee to execute such a release upon termination, the employer would have to offer a settlement that would be acceptable to the terminated employee.

A Confidentiality Agreement

A confidentiality agreement, also known as a non-disclosure agreement, is a legal contract between two or more parties who wish to share information between themselves for certain purposes, but who wish to restrict to or by third parties. The subject of a confidentiality agreement is a promise that information conveyed will be maintained in secrecy. A confidentiality agreement usually results from 2 situations:

- For Business Purposes – employees may be required to sign an agreement at the beginning of employment in order to ensure that any information gained during the course of the employment remains the property of the employer, and is not divulged to anyone else. This relates in particular to all data and information relating to the business, such as trade secrets, technical information, accounting and financial information, marketing devices and any other information that might not be available for public knowledge. In the event that the employer breaches the agreement and divulges confidential information during or after his employment, he may be liable for damages and the employer can file a law suit against him for any loss the company suffers.

  May also be used in circumstances where 2 companies are considering doing business together and need to understand more details about the other's business for the purpose of assessing the potential business relationship.

- After / During Settlement Negotiations – parties will usually take steps to settle disputes outside of court. This is particularly beneficial because of the high cost of litigation. Another reason for avoiding litigation, especially for big corporations, is to avoid bad publicity and to keep negative opinions out of newspapers etc. Where a confidentiality agreement is signed, both parties are bound to keep all written, oral and other communication and materials private, therefore not disclosing the terms of settlement.

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are for informational purposes only and must not be relied upon as an alternative to legal advice from your own lawyer.

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opinion

Israel's response shows restraint

As diplomats stumble toward a formula to end the latest hostilities between the Hamas controlled Palestinian territories and Israel, it isn't hard to figure out which side is doing its best to prevent the senseless death of civilians.

It's important Canada continues to stand with Israel because we follow similar democratic traditions.

According to the non-partisan Freedom House, Israel is the only "free" country in the Middle East.

But more importantly, Hamas is on Canada's list of terrorist entities. This is not a political choice either.

As the Public Safety Canada website notes: "Since 1990, Hamas has been responsible for several hundred terrorist attacks against both civilian and military targets."

These terrorist scruples are sadly alive and well in the current conflict.

Hamas rocket launchers have been positioned in civilian areas and fire into civilian areas in Israel. This makes it hard for Israeli forces to fire back and hit only military combatants.

So part of their attempt to minimize civilian casualties is to phone ahead and warn them. They know this means the militants might also get away, but they're prepared to do that, if only because it means the launchers are still destroyed.

Yet Hamas has the despicable gall to tell its people not to evacuate, saying the point of the phone calls is "to create confusion among the citizens."

Hamas clearly wants conflict. After all, on July 9 a Hamas spokesman made it clear that "All Israelis have now become legitimate targets."

So should Israel unilaterally commence a ceasefire and hope Hamas joins? Probably not a wise move.

A June poll conducted by the Washington Institute for Near East Policy found that 60% of Palestinians reject a two-state solution and want to "work toward reclaiming all of historic Palestine, from the river to the sea."

In other words, the majority don't really think Israel should exist.

Stephen Harper was right when he said "Canada reiterates its call for the Palestinian government to disarm Hamas and other Palestinian terrorist groups operating in Gaza."

As United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon noted on Sunday: "Hamas' indiscriminate firing of rockets against Israeli civilian targets is a violation of international law."

We wish the best for civilians on both sides.

But it's obvious Israel is the far more responsible party.

*** QMI AGENCY**

Column

Uncontrolled electricity awareness on farms

BRENT ROYCE
Special to the Examiner

Experiencing production challenges or caring for livestock with health problems is never easy on the farm. It's even more difficult when farmers and veterinarians struggle to identify the source of the problem.

Now, more Ontario farmers are becoming aware of an environmental challenge that has a significant impact on animal health – the issue of uncontrolled electricity. Also called "ground current" or "stray voltage," uncontrolled electricity occurs when there is a constant underground electrical current flowing in the ground or barn. Animals can be exposed to shocks transmitted through barn floors, milking equipment and water bowls. Livestock exposed to uncontrolled electricity may have lower production, stop eating or drinking, or exhibit other odd behavior. Some cases even result in death.

It's important that Ontario farmers educate themselves on how to recognize the signs of ground current challenges on the farm. That's why the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA) is helping to raise awareness about uncontrolled electricity. We belong to a working group of agricultural organizations in Ontario that is looking to identify the severity of the problem, and work with utility companies to address the issue.

The OFA has also launched a series of online videos to help raise awareness about issues such as uncontrolled electricity. OFA's most recent video, Understanding Uncontrolled Electricity on the Farm, provides background information on the issue, and explains important steps farmers need to take to identify and fix the on-farm problem and where to find help.

For farmers who suspect uncontrolled electricity is at play on their farm, their first phone call needs to be to a licensed electrician. The electrician should visit the farm to test for ground current, and work with the farmer to fix any problems that are within the farm's electrical system.

Uncontrolled electricity can also come from off–farm sources beyond a farmer's control, such as the farm's electricity carrier.

If the licensed electrician discovers the problem is from an off-farm source, he or she will work with the farmer to contact the local utility to file a report. A utility representative needs to visit the farm to test for ground current. It is important that farmers document all reports of uncontrolled electricity, so that all parties are aware of the extent of the problem.

The OFA is working with other agricultural organizations and Hydro One to address ground current challenges on Ontario farms. Gaining more control over this and other issues will go a long way in helping to enabling prosperous and sustainable farms.

Brent Royce is a director with the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

Letters

Budget should be expanded

If Sun Media Lorrie Goldstein is really concerned about putting the people of Ontario to work, he should advise Federal Finance Minister Joe Oliver to expand his budget, rather than telling Ontario Finance Minister Charles Sousa to reduce his.

The European Union has demonstrated over the last five years that austerity programs do not create jobs, while the Second World War showed pretty conclusively that federal government spending does.

And if worried about interest on Ontario government debt, then urge the Bank of Canada to make low-interest loans directly to the province - instead of giving low-cost loans to big financial institutions who then hike the cost to the province.

Larry Kazdan
Vancouver, B.C.

GIVE US YOUR VIEWS

We want to hear your opinions. Send letters to: *barrie.news@sunmedia.ca.* Make sure to provide your name, phone number, and your city or town.

The Royalty Stone Inc. team - from left, Jodi Matthews, Danny Fazari, Ashley Flamenco, Barbie Horowicz and Peter Tekin - at the Saturday, July 12, 2014 Grand Opening, at the south end of Barrie.
MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES/SUNMEDIA

Royalty Stone offers many new options

MIRIAM KING
QMI AGENCY

Royalty Stone, located at 56 Churchill Dr., at the south end of Barrie, offers a local option for anyone considering granite, marble or quartz, for counter-tops, walls and fireplaces.

Customers can choose their materials from the in-stock selection of premium slabs or the digital online display.

Then, says partner Danny Fazari, "We do everything, from template to fabrication to installation."

He'll come in to the home, to draw up templates for vanities and countertops, which his staff will use to custom-cut the slab selected - water-polishing the surface, and custom-finishing the edges.

"We keep a large stock, so customers don't have to go to Toronto," Fazari explains, with new stone coming in every two weeks.

The shop, located in an industrial building on Churchill Drive, not only includes the fabrication area, but a comfortable and attractive showroom, displaying the variety of materials available - and featuring a finished fireplace surround, created by Royalty Stone.

"Walk in here and feel like its home," Fazari invites. "We treat our customers the way we want to be treated. Our customers are No. 1."

His partner in the family-run business in Ashley Flamenco, who has ties to Bradford.

In fact, at the grand opening on July 12, Flamenco organized a fundraiser for the SPCA (Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals) in memory of her "sister-in-law and best friend," Sonia Dehdezi - who tragically lost her life on County Rd. 88 in Bradford, in February 2012.

A BBQ, face-painting, and customer appreciation draws helped introduce the new business to customers - and raised $1000 for the SPCA, in Sonia's name.

Royalty Stone, RoyaltyStone.com can be reached at 1-855-734-2992.

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Innisfil Town Council has passed a Notice of Intent to Designate the historic Cookstown United Church, to preserve its imposing facade on Queen St. (Hwy. 89). The salmon and yellow brick church was built in 1879.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES/SUNMEDIA

Historic nod for church

MIRIAM KING
QMI AGENCY

Innisfil Council passed a "Notice of Intention to Designate" 37 Queen St. in Cookstown as a Heritage Building - the historic Cookstown United Church.

Councillor Doug Lougheed explained that the Innisfil Heritage Committee had learned of the planned amalgamation of the Cookstown and Thornton United Churches, and were concerned that the administrators and trustees of the church planned to close Cookstown United, and take actions that might affect the exterior facade.

Lougheed noted that the building would have been protected by the Heritage Conservation District designation already approved for Cookstown - but that designation has now been appealed to the Ontario Municipal Board.

He urged council to provide the Notice of Intention, "given the value of the building to the community."

Council agreed, and voted to approve the Notice. "This is not an end play," said Councillor Lynn Dollin, Ward Councillor. "This seemed to be something we needed to do to protect a building."

She noted that the church bell is inscribed with the names of Cookstown residents killed during World War I.

The trustees and administrators of the church now have 30 days to respond and comment on the proposed Heritage designation,before it comes back to Council for a final decision.

Councillor Ken Simpson suggested that the Heritage Committee should look at similar protection for other Innisfil churches.

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Killer can apply for parole in seven years

Clare Spiers murdered wife of Barrie doctor in 2004

TORONTO (QMI) — Door-to-door salesman and serial criminal Clare Spiers has been sentenced to life in prison with no chance of parole for 17 years following his guilty plea in the murder of a prominent Barrie surgeon's wife.

The Orillia-born Spiers, 49, was set to go on trial for the second time after his conviction for first-degree murder was tossed by the Ontario Court of Appeal over accusations of jury vetting.

SPIERS

Instead, Spiers pleaded guilty last month to second-degree murder for the strangulation and stabbing of Mimi Khonsari, 61.

She was home caring for her 11-month-old grandchild when they were kidnapped by Spiers, who was canvassing potential customers for a window company along Shanty Bay Road on May 21, 2004.

Khonsari was choked to death, stabbed 18 times in the throat area and left in a wooded area on Ridge Road, north of Barrie.

The baby was found unharmed in Khonsari's Audi A6 abandoned in the parking of a Barrie high-rise on Kozlov Street later that evening.

At Spiers' sentencing, Khonsari's sons filed emotional impact statements while the Crown entered his criminal record of more than 30 convictions, including rapes and robberies.

After her murder in 2004, friends described Mimi Khonsari as a gentle, kind and bubbly woman who loved to laugh. "She wouldn't have had an enemy in the world," said a long-time neighbour. "She was just a sweet, sweet lady and people loved to be near her. She had a great sense of humour and was fun to be around."

Her husband, Dr. Homa Khonsari, died from cancer in April 2011.

Offered the chance to speak on Wednesday in court, Spiers declined.

Justice Ian Nordheimer accepted a joint submission from the Crown and defence on Spiers' ineligibility for parole for 17 years.

Since he has been in prison since his arrest in 2004, he can apply for parole in seven years.

Hockey league boosts Sunset Park with accessible swing

MIRIAM KING
QMI AGENCY

Sunset Park in Stroud, Innisfil, also called "The Meadows of Stroud", is a small gem - a community park that attracts hordes of neighbourhood children to its soccer pitch, tree-shaded lawns and play area.

That's why the members of the Innisfil Gentlemen's Hockey League - an over-35, non-contact hockey club - were delighted when their donation was earmarked for improvements at the Stroud facility.

The non-profit League had $1,000 left at the end of the season. Rather than spend it on an end-of-season BBQ, they decided to make a donation.

The League came to the Town and asked, "What could we do with it, to give back to the community?" says Mike Power.

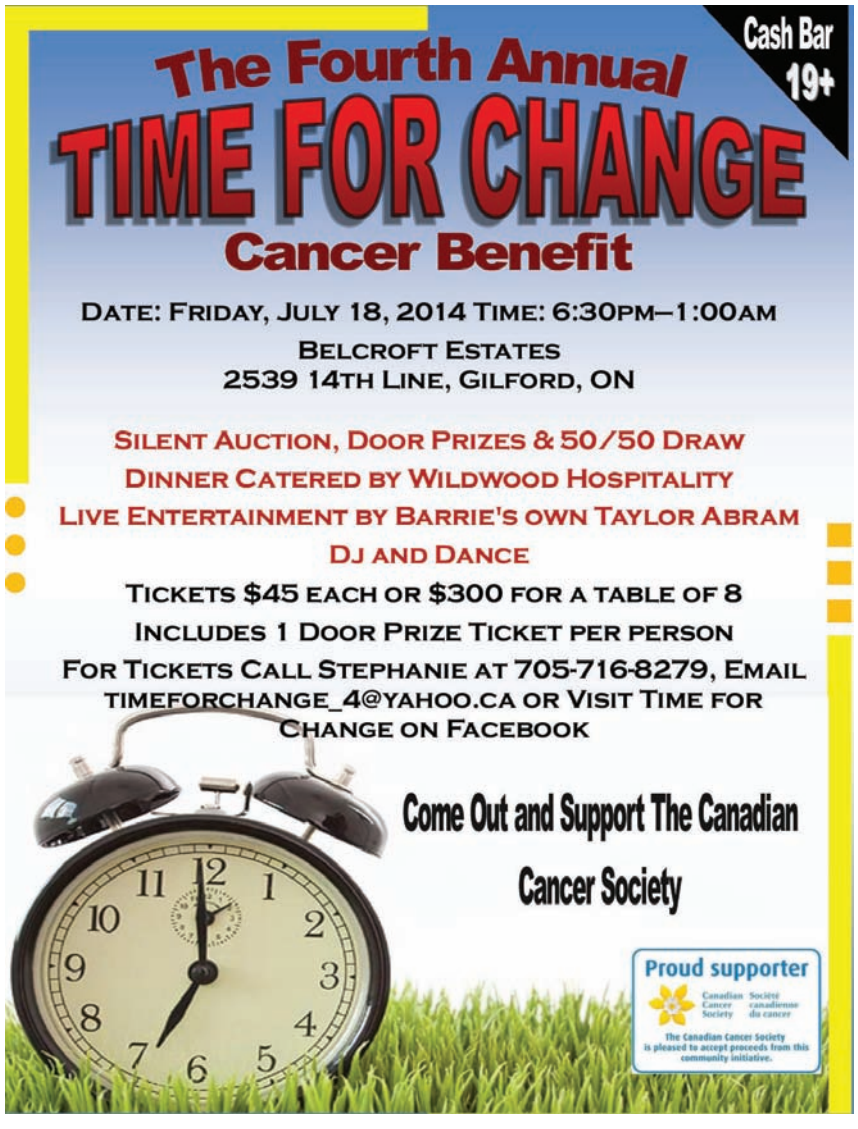
The recommendation: an "accessible swing", designed to enable handicapped children to enjoy the pleasures of playing in the park.

The Town already has accessible swings installed in 3 locations, thanks to community fundraising. The sturdy swings, which come with a seat belt harness for added security, have been placed at Innisfil Beach Park, Previn Court Park, and the Cookstown Community Park.

For Power, the idea of installing a swing in Sunset Park was perfect. Not only is he a Stroud resident, "we're all fathers," he says of the League members.

On July 16, Power, fellow IGHL member Mike Magill, members of Innisfil Council, and Recreation staff officially presented the new swing to the community - and 12 year old Vince was on hand, with mom Ana, to be the first to try it out.

There were big smiles all around.



Resort project gets noise exemption

MIRIAM KING
QMI AGENCY

Friday Harbour Resort Inc. has received an exemption to the Town of Innisfil's Noise By-law, that will permit construction on Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with the exception of long weekends.

The work will be restricted; it will not be the general construction that has been occurring on the site from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on weekdays, but only work on the earthworks and marina walls for the resort's huge 1000 slip marina, required to permit flooding of the basin this fall.

Ross Pityk, President of the Innisfil District Association residents' group, appeared before Council in Open Forum on July 9, to ask the Town to delay the exemption, until after the Thanksgiving long weekend. Pityk noted that neighbouring residents would like to enjoy their properties during the summer months, without the disruption of construction noise on the weekends.

But Shauna Dudding, Vice President of Development with Geranium Homes, explained there is a tight timeline. "We want to ensure that we get the flooding this year," before freeze-up, she told Council. That will allow the turbidity stirred up by construction to settle out over the winter, while the ice is on the lake - allowing the company to restore fish habitat and replant in the spring.

"It's very important that we proceed immediately."

Asked how many Saturdays would be required to complete the basin, Dudding said, "Until it's done -prior to the freeze. It's obviously dependent upon the weather."

She noted that completion as quickly as possible was a priority not only of Friday Harbour Resort, but also the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority.

The Saturday construction should be less noisy than the weekday work, since it is restricted to the marina basin, Dudding said, promising ongoing monitoring and dust control.

Council granted the exemption - with the exception of the Civic Holiday, Labour Day and Thanksgiving weekends.

localbriefs

THREE PEOPLE SAVED FROM LAKE SIMCOE

Three people were plucked from Lake Simcoe by a marina worker when a paddle boat flipped over near Fox Island Tuesday afternoon.

York Regional police received a 911 call at 4 p.m. about a paddle boat and kayak in trouble. The police marine unit was sent onto the lake.

While on route, police received further information that three men were in the water, far from shore, and didn't appear to be wearing life jackets.

At about 4:15 p.m., a Sandy Cove Marina employee heard one of the men calling for help while trying to swim to shore.

He immediately got into a boat and went to the men, pulling them out of the water.

Police arrived shortly afterwards to assesses the men, who were cold and exhausted – but not injured. Officers pulled the paddle boat and kayak from the water and everyone returned safely to shore.

ASSAULT LEADS TO CHARGES

BRADFORD – A local man faces three charges after the friend of a woman reported she had been assault on the weekend.

South Simcoe police went to a home during the dinner hour Sunday to investigate an incident from Saturday.

A woman said she had been assaulted and threatened, and that property inside her home had been damaged.

Police tracked her husband, a 24-year-old man, to Keswick and arrested him.

The man is charged with assault, mischief to property and uttering threats. He was later released on condition to stay away from his family, and has an August court date.

TRAFFIC STOP ENDS IN TROUBLE

INNISFIL - A man already facing several criminal charges wound up in even more trouble following a traffic stop early Saturday morning.

According to South Simcoe Police, an officer conducting a routine traffic stop pulled over a driver around 2:30 a.m. on the 20th Sideroad in Innisfil. The driver was investigated for having an altered licence plate and a check revealed he was currently on release for several outstanding criminal charges with a future court date.

One of the conditions of his release included a curfew, which police say he was breaking.

As a result, he was charged with breach of recognizance and held in custody pending a bail hearing.

STREET CATS RESCUE: Tigger and Marbles looking for homes

Tigger

Marbles

Street Cats Rescue Photos

These two kitties would love nothing more than to have a home of their own . . . together. They are both very sweet, affectionate and quiet. Tigger, male, short hair brown tabby is seven years old. Marbles, female, medium hair brown tabby is five years old. They are up to date on vaccines, fixed and microchipped. If you are interested in meeting Tigger & Marbles, please contact us at 705-503-2287 or email streetcatsrescue@hotmail.com.

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JULY 10-26

Theatre by the Bay presents Macbeth with a fun and unique twist. Director and developer Alex Dault has transformed the original story into a modern day seance where five teenagers summon the ghost of Macbeth and get more than they bargained for.

The new adaptation is not entertaining, enjoyable for an audience of all ages and does not require any knowledge of Shakespearian language. Evening and matinee performances run outdoors in St. Vincent Park. For tickets, call the box office at 705-735-9243.

JULY 25

Lakeside Retirment, located at 985 Innisfil Beach Rd., in Alcona, is hosting a Caribbean Festival on Friday, July 25, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Music, refreshments and more. RSVP to 705-431-8105.

AUG. 2

Saturday, Aug. 2 St. John's Anglican Church in Cookstown is hosting their annual Steamshow Dinner (roast beef) from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Cookstown Curling Rink located behind the church. Come and join us for a great meal and fellowship.

Adults - $17.00, Children Under 12 - $8.00, Under 5 - Free.

For further information, please contact Diane at 705-458-2723.

'Books and Bites' offers readers their fill

MIRIAM KING
QMI AGENCY

"I think the combination of books and food is a good one," Susan Baues, head librarian at the Cookstown branch of the Innisfil Public Library.

She was talking about "Books and Bites," the latest Library venture, inviting the public to meet local published authors, over coffee, tea and dessert at local restaurants. Tickets are only $10 for each event.

On July 12, Books and Bites featured a presentation by Michael Walton, author of the action novel APOK, at the Iron Horse in Cookstown.

Walton, a former police officer, told the group that he went to University for English, and always loved writing - but reality led him into "Law and Security" and a career in policing, first with Peel Regional Police, later with the OPP. He served in drug enforcement, street gangs, Homicide; after 9/11, he helped to patrol the airport.

"It was like I was in a TV show. It was like I was in a movie, every day," Walton said.

While on patrol in the wake of 9/11, he began to work out scenarios - "I started thinking, what would people attack? Where would they hit?" - which formed the basis of the first chapter in his book.

But it took two other negative events before he would seriously return to his writing. The first was his assignment to Internal Investigations - which he called "one of the messiest things in my life. It's not a nice thing when you have to investigate other police officers.... I needed something for myself."

Then, biking between Alliston and Barrie while training for a Triathlon, he was struck by a car.

Off work for 5 months, he began writing - starting with the chapter he had written in the wake of 9/11.

The 2nd in a series of author visits, held at local restaurants - combining conversation with dessert - took place at the Iron Horse pub in Cookstown on Saturday, July 12, 2014, and featured author Michael Walton. Here, author Brenda J. Wood, at left, chats with other guests in this event organized by the Innisfil Public Library.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES/SUNMEDIA

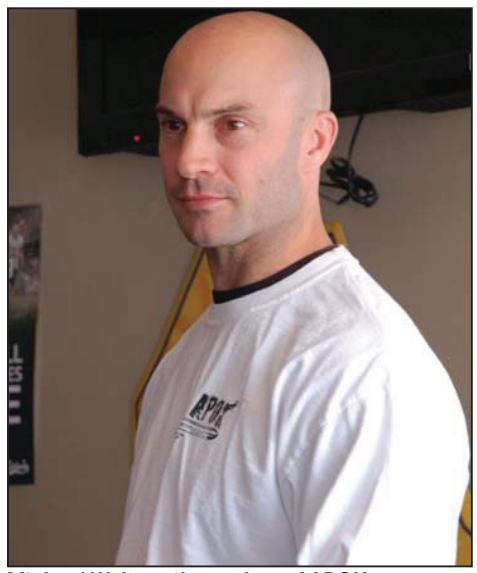
The result was APOK, a work of fiction that drew upon his experiences as an officer, as well as his imagination. Walton believed in his work - but found it hard to sell to a publisher. He was told by one, "We receive 15,000 manuscripts. We pick 5."

Instead, Walton decided to go the self-publishing route, hiring editors, web developers and other experts, and paying for publication, to help him "get it out there."

"It was challenging in every aspect," he said, acknowledging that he hasn't recouped his costs as yet, although he has sold 1,000 books, has a growing fan base in Texas, and is already working on a sequel.

Walton doesn't worry about profits. "I have friends that buy cars, I have friends that buy cottages - I bought a book," he said. "I don't want any regrets... (Writing) is my passion. I do this because this is what I love."

The best advice he ever got? His first editor told him, "Stop talking like a cop." Walton said he had to learn how to "show instead of tell... It was the most painful and the most joyful experience."



Michael Walton, the author of APOK

Walton answered questions, and read from his book - to applause. For more information, see www.apok.ca The book is available on the website for $25.

There are still two Books & Bites events to come:

. July 19, Brenda J. Wood, author, TV Personality and motivational speaker, will be at The Cove Café, 902 Lockhart Road, at 3 p.m. A medley of desserts will be served. Wood will be discussing her book, The Pregnant Pause of Grief.

. July 26, J.L. Witterick, author of the best-seller, My Mother's Secret, based on a true Holocaust story, will be at Bruno's Bakery, 808 Innisfil Beach Rd. (at 25 Sideroad), at 3 p.m.

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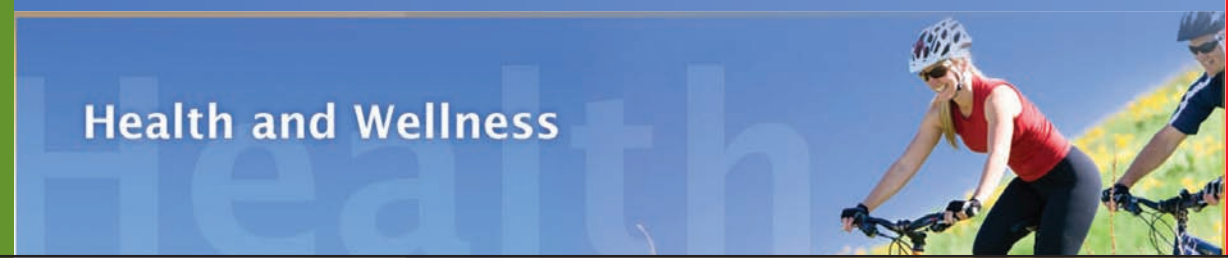

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Mouth guards work !

As we are approaching the middle of summer, many of you are spending time outside riding bikes and playing outdoor sports, but with these activities come the risk of developing any type of injury.

Not only do contact sports have a higher risk of dental-related injuries, non-contact sports can cause serious injury to the mouth and teeth as well. Hockey season will also be upon us soon, so Applewood Dental has decided to hold a sports guard clinic on Wednesday, Aug. 20, starting at 4pm.

All mouth guards will be custom-made and free of charge.

Please give our office a call at 705-436-5777 to set up an appointment.

We will have all mouth guards available for pick up in 3 business days. We look forward to hearing from you.

Play hard and wear a mouth guard!

Aboriginal focus at RVH

To ensure the diverse needs of First Nations patients are being met, the Simcoe Muskoka Regional Cancer Program at Royal Victoria Regional Health Centre is using the services of an Aboriginal patient navigator.

This role, along with the already established role of regional Aboriginal cancer lead currently held by Connie Foster, supports RVH's commitment to providing the best patient experience possible by addressing the traditional culture and beliefs of First Nations people.

"The Aboriginal people have experienced 500 years of oppression which has created a culture of fear. To come to a government institution - like a hospital - is to face that fear which often prevents them from seeking the help they need," said Bergstrome, who is a member of the Métis nation.

Now, when a First Nations patient walks through the doors of RVH, they are greeted by Bergstrome, the Aboriginal patient navigator, and walked through the system of care.

The position is just one element in Cancer Care Ontario's (CCO) Aboriginal Cancer Strategy which strives to improve health outcomes and the quality of life for Aboriginal people with cancer.

Bergstrome provides and coordinates culturally and spiritually relevant support for Aboriginal patients and their families throughout their cancer journey.

"It's not just the process of navigating the cancer system that is important; it's doing so with respect for the original people of these lands and their worldview," said Lindsey Crawford, vice-president, Patient Programs and regional vice-president, Cancer Care Ontario (CCO).

"Leah uses narrative medicine, including history and stories, to support patients in their healing process, as well as the teachings of the Medicine Wheel. Having her here is in keeping with our My Care philosophy which put our patients and their families first and promises to provide them with the most positive patient experience."

Bergstrome is the main contact for the people of Beausoleil First Nation on Christian Island; Moose Deer Point First Nation in MacTier; Wahta, Mohawks of Bala; Chippewas of Rama; as well as the urban Aboriginal population.

She regularly visits these communities to build, or in some case re-build, relationships and trust in the healthcare system.

She offers patients support to access healthcare services at home, coordinates traditional and non-traditional resources and healing, provides counseling before, during and after appointments, is an advocate for the patient, and is there to ensure patients' wishes are respected for end-of-life care.

But most importantly, she is a friendly face when an Aboriginal person walks in the health centre.

"Just knowing there is someone here for them can reduce anxiety. I'm a friend who can take their hand and walk with them along their path," she said.

For more information, contact *bergstromel@rvh.on.ca*

From left, Innisfil Community Events Corporation (I.C.E. Corp.) members Lou Kennedy, Doug Lougheed, and Gord Wauchope present a cheque to Innisfil Christmas for Kids founder Myrlene Boken and volunteer Debra Harrison, as Chis Reynolds, Chris Reynolds Sr., Donna Orsatti, Patty Spring and Jim Orsatti look on, Monday.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES/SUNMEDIA

ICE helps groups

(STAFF) - Innisfil Community Events Corporation (ICE) presented donations to two Innisfil community groups from its fundraising efforts at Summerfest.

Innisfil's Christmas for Kids is now a year-round program that not only provides Christmas gifts to children in financial need, but is also involved in both a breakfast program at Killarney Beach Public School and a school birthday program.

The birthday program ensures that children invited to the birthday party of a classmate don't have to turn down the invitation simply because they can't afford a present. Instead, kids can select a present from a range of donated items for both boys and girls, gift-wrap it and sign a card.

Six youngsters used the program between April and June, noted volunteer Debra Harrison.

"These kids would otherwise not be able to go to the birthday parties," she said.

Innisfil Christmas for Kids received a cheque for $500 from ICE.

The Innisfil Minor Hockey Association, for its assistance at the gates during Summerfest, received a percentage of the admission by way of a cheque for more than $1,000.

From left, Innisfil Community Events Corporation (I.C.E.Corp.) members Lou Kennedy, Doug Lougheed and Gord Wauchope present a cheque to representatives of the Innisfil Minor Hockey Association, Lorine PRice and Chad Radzio for the assistance of IMHA at Summerfest's Gate, as Chris Reynolds, Chris Reynolds Sr., Donna Orsatti, Patty Spring and Jim Orsatti look on, Monday.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES/SUNMEDIA

Master Gardener Judith Rogers with a Fairy Garden. Rogers was the guest speaker at the Monday meeting of the Gilford & District Horticultural Society, at the Churchill Community Centre in Innisfil, and spoke about Fairy Gardens.

MIRIAM KING/BRADFORD TIMES/SUNMEDIA

ABOVE: Best in Class, and Best in Show - Asiatic Lily won ribbons at the Gilford & District Horticultural Society's Summer Flower Show. BELOW: Floating rose,entered in the Gilford & District Horticultural Society's Summer Flower Show.

The magic of fairy gardens

There are fairies at the bottom of our garden!

It's not so very, very far away.

You pass the gardener's shed and you just keep straight ahead -

I do so hope they've really come to stay! - ***Rose Fyleman***

MIRIAM KING
QMI AGENCY

Fairy gardens have become one of the hottest fads in the gardening world: the creation of tiny fantasy gardens, filled with miniature plants and statues of fairies.

"Put on your imaginary fairy wings," master gardener Judith Rogers told the Gilford & District Horticultural Society on Monday at the Churchill Community Centre. "If you liked Peter Pan and Tinkerbell, and you have imagination, you're going to love fairy gardens."

She provided tips on where to find fairy figures, and the tiny gazebos, houses, tables and chairs that can become part of a magical world in miniature.

The trick, Rogers said, is to ensure that everything is to scale in whatever trough, basket, pot or barrel will be used to create the fairy garden.

Coloured stones can form a pathway. Tiny acorns become toadstools. A mirror becomes a pond, underneath a toy bridge culled from a toy box.

Think about the scale, and whether the garden will sit in sun or shade, when choosing what to plant.

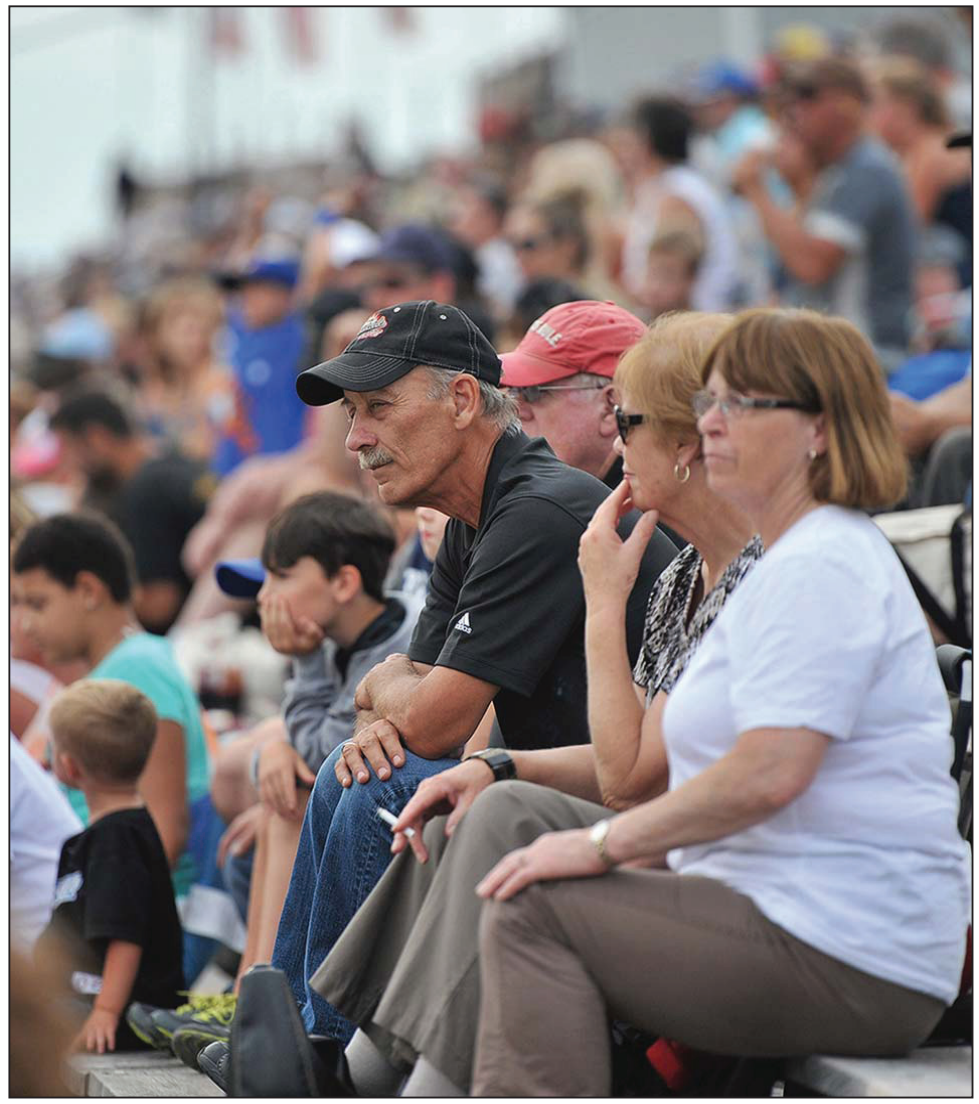
"There are lots of plants available right now, because fairy gardens are taking off," said Rogers. "Think small."

It was the last meeting of the society before September, and also featured a Summer Perennial Flower Show, with roses and lilies in bloom, floating roses and flower arrangements, and several awards to be won.

Start your engines !

Sunset Speedway in Innisfil hosted the Home and Home Series on Saturday. The lineup included the Ontario Legends Series, Lucas Oil Can-Am Midgets, Hurricane Midgets, Pro Challenge Series and Kids Bicycle Races.

Mark Wanzel Photos



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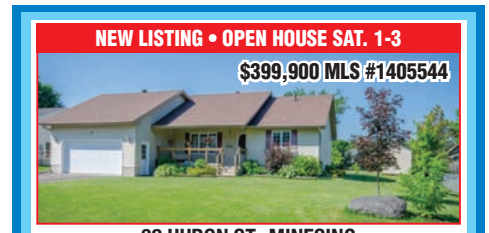
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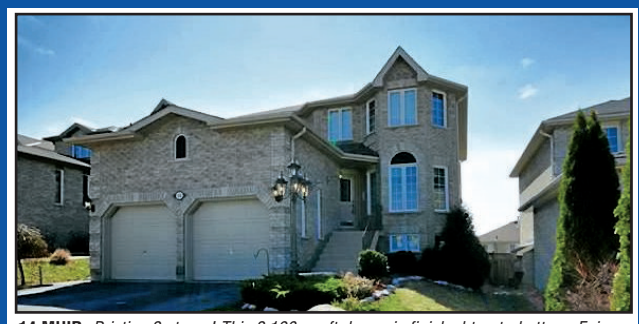
62 HIGHCROFT: *Look no further! Pie shaped lot in old Allandale. Beautiful 4 bdrm 4 level back split with oversized garage. New furnace & central air in 2012, roof 2010, flooring 2011. Windows in great shape. Ceramic kitchen open to see family room with gas fireplace. Gorgeous treed private lot. Nice size deck. Home is spotless. A must see. Lawn mower included. $280,000.* ***Directions: Little to Highcroft to sign***

186 HICKLING: *great family home or student rental income property, 3.1 Bedroom 2 storey, 1.5 Baths. Rents were $2150 per month. Home has just been refurbished with new kitchen, hand scraped laminate & new carpet on stairs. Roof & windows done in lst 7 yrs. Forced air & central air. Home backs onto park entry. Front deck newly painted.* ***$239,900. Directions: Johnson Street to Hickling Trail***



14 MUIR: *Pristine 2 storey! This 2,196 sq. ft. home is finished top to bottom. Enjoy a beautiful main floor w/ hdwd & ceramics. Spacious family rm w/ gas fp & stone wall, eat-in kitchen w/ walk out to lg deck & beautiful views, separate dining room & liv rm, powder room & main floor laundry w/ walk out to grg & loft for storage. 4 Lg bedrooms w/ hdwds. Mstr w/ ensuite & walk in closet. Walk out bsmt w/ lg rec rm & pot light! 10+* ***$439,900. Directions: Eaglestone to Dunnet to 14 Muir.***

145 BANTING: *Att'n investors! Looking for a sound investment then look no further. Quality home, just needs carpet, drywall, insulation, siding & minor shingle repair. Mn flr is in pristine condition. Grt opportunity to fix n flip or live in below market value. $235,000*

280 MOONSTONE: *Quainte village of Moonstone, where a peaceful family lifestyle is a reality; 2 mins to hwy & 4 mins to mt st. Louis ski resort, georgian bay mins away. This property sports a 4 bdrm home with 3 baths, new country size eat-in kitchen w under counter lighting, formal dining room. Great 30x23 workshop w/ concrete floor & 2 drive in doors . Close to small public school k-7. $299,900*

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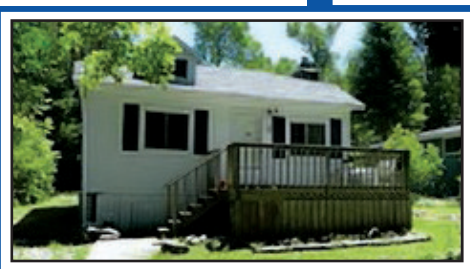
13 BROWNING: *Attention investors legal duplex located in Letitia Heights. This home features a 3 bdrm 2nd floor apt with huge mbdrm w/ walk in closet. Basement features a lg one bdrm apt with play area. This home has amazing views of the city from the 2nd floor apartment & 3rd level deck. Lndry on main & bsmnt. Steel roof oversize single car garage unistone driveway. Come take a look.* ***$280,000***

29 HENRY: *Attention investors! Turn key property, newly renovated 3 years ago. Huge deep lot, no real rear neighbours. New flooring, updated kitchen. Tenant pays $1150.00 per month + utilities or live in and enjoy private backyard. Detached home, cheaper than a townhouse. Please allow 24 hrs for showings.* ***$210,000***



9 GRANDVIEW: *Handy man special! Purchase this wonderful property to fix up and make it your summer cottage or tear it down & make your dream home on this 50 ft 200 deep lot. Tons of potential and only 15 mins to highway access and just 45 mins to Barrie. Quick walk to park & beach. Wonderful neighbourhood. Enjoy private treed backyard backing on to bush. A great place to getaway! Call to book your personal viewing.* ***$82,000***

12 VICTORIA: *Country living just minutes to base Borden & Alliston. Beautiful 1,163 sqft bungalow w/ open concept main floor. Spacious eat-in kitchen w/ ceramic floors & walk out to lg deck & private treed backyard. Living rm just off kitchen w/ laminate flooring. 2 Large bdrms on main floor. Huge master w/ double closets & semi-ensuite. Bsmt is finished w/ sep entrance, lg rec rm w/ Napoleon fp, ofc, 3rd bdrm & 4pc bath. Smoke free! 10+ Call Heather to view.* ***$369,900***

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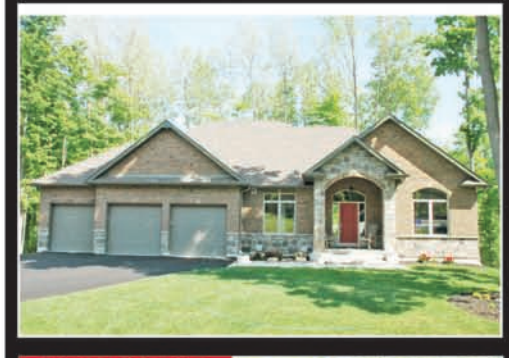
Totally renovated: custom kitchen, baths, granite counters, porcelain tiles, hardwood, pot lights, large baseboards, built-ins, sound and surveillance system, furnace, air, windows, deck, 3+1 bedrooms, 3 ½ baths. Shows perfectly. Mountbatten Cr. MLS 1404558

Exceptional home & Cul-De-Sac, Midhurst $1,695,000
Architecturally designed on 1.7 acre treed estate. 7600 sq ft beautifully finished, including the indoor pool area. Amazing windows & skylights, soaring ceilings, & so much to see. Midves Crt. MLS 1400545



Snow Valley's Newer Street $749,900
Stylish quality custom open concept bungalow on quiet private cul-de-sac, forest surrounds. Walkout nicely finished basement. Beautiful kitchen. Cathedral window wall & large deck Luxurious master & ensuite – elegant tub & separate glass shower. Inspiring! Heron Blvd. MLS 1400359

Great Street Appeal $535,000
Park like lot on quiet Midhurst Drive. 4+1 bdrms, finished walkout bsmt, hardwood, French doors, California shutters, fireplaces, nice views from large decks, landscaping, unistone. Well maintained & clean. Idlewood Dr. MLS 1404031

Popular Ardagh Bluffs $449,000
2800 sq ft brick home with 4 bedrooms, 5pc ensuite w/ separate shower, main floor den & laundry, hardwood floors, family room with fireplace, 9' ceilings, impressive newer deck & front landscaping. Fresh paint, neutral décor. No homes in front or behind – nice separation. McIntyre Dr. MLS 1404244

Magical Setting! Midh… $534,900
0.62 acre mature … t ba… Willow Creek, … St… …utry brick home wi… …ed … 4 bdrms, 2 baths, large eat… …chen, spacious living room. Well cared for. Finlay Mill Rd. MLS 1404022

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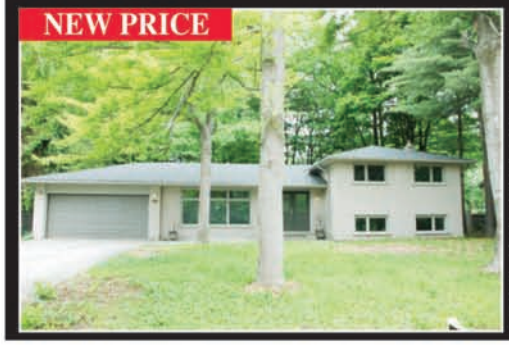

Modern Styling - Midhurst $489,900
Completely renovated home in sought after community. So much & so well done: windows & doors, kitchen & baths, flooring & tiling, pot lights, glass railing, stainless appliances, wiring, furnace & air, garage doors, soffits & eaves, gas F/P. Finlay Mill Rd. MLS 1404470

Exceptional Midhurst Estate Home $1,099,000
Custom impressive bungalow with loft & finished lower level on a treed beautiful landscaped property backing on Willow Creek. 6,000 sq ft impeccably finished on all levels, 10'&14' ceilings, window wall, 7 bedrooms, 4 baths – the finest quality throughout. Lilac Ln. MLS 1404965

27 Acre Estate + 2 Shops $795,000
Well maintained lovely home, over 4800 sq ft finished, triple garage, laneways, pool, gardens, patios, & porches. Nicely set back, private amongst trees, ravine, & stream. Updated kitchen & baths, hardwood, granite. Truly Special! Moonstone Rd W. MLS 1400372

Innisbrook Estates 9.8 acres $1,499,000
Custom built over 7250 sq ft finished on 3 levels, 5 bdrms, 5 baths, cathedral ceilings, elevator, beautiful interior finishing's, windows, staircases, foyers & neighboring homes. Large principal rooms, extensive landscaping, decks, & patios. Impressive! Innisbrook St. MLS 1400659

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$289,900.00 Excellent location and In-Law Capability in this wonderfully updated raised bungalow with walk-out basement. 2+1 bedrooms, 2 full baths both have been recently renovated. Large Living Room and Dining Room with walkout to rear deck. Lower level offer a large family room with gas stove, additional 3rd bedroom and 2nd full bath. Walkout to garden, separate entrance from garage. Newer shingles, windows and central air. Don't miss this opportunity to get into the market. Call Elaine or Al to set up a showing

$579,900.00 Cul-de-sac location, Welcome Home! Remarkable all brick 2 storey home situated on just under a 1/2 acre lot backing onto the Ardagh Bluffs. This home offers more than 3100 sq. ft. of finished living area above grade. Cul-De-Sac location perfect for family with small children, pool sized lot and inside entry from garage to the lower level make it the perfect set up for in-law or Nanny suite (no stairs), 4 bedrooms, 2.1 baths, large eat-kitchen, large main floor family room with gas Fireplace, main floor office or formal livingroom, formal dining area. Beautiful interlock stone patio front and back, endless ideas for your backyard oasis. Call Al or Elaine for a personal viewing. **MLS #1403737**

Make work a breeze at the cottage with a detachable laptop

(NC) When packing for the cottage it's important to remember the essentials: bathing suit, sunscreen, snacks and your tablet, smartphone or laptop. In our exceedingly connected world, while you can physically escape to the cottage for the week, you still need to keep in touch.

When work has to travel with you, don't get stuck lugging a big, clunky laptop. Laptop technology is constantly evolving and the newest generation lets you get your work done on the dock without the fuss or weight of a heavy machine. Detachable laptops offer the functionality of a traditional PC's keyboard, with the convenience and flexibility of a mobile tablet. Just detach the screen from the keyboard for an instant tablet computer.

"Nowadays you really can work anywhere and I find that I'm always working on the go," says business executive, Caroline Weldon. "The detachable laptop works for me because it has the power and speed of a desktop, but it's also lightweight and convenient."

With a detachable computer, you are able to work indoors using the standard format of a laptop to check email or video conference, and then simply detach the screen and take the tablet outside to enjoy the fresh summer air. Anti-glare screens make it easy to view your favourite content outdoors.

And if your summer trip has more rain than shine, you can connect your trusty detachable to your television to instantly stream your favourite movies and shows. The Toshiba Portégé Z10t, for instance, has an HDMI port and multiple USB ports built right into the tablet to easily view your content on a television screen. You can also use wireless technology like Intel's WiDi to connect to the big screen without cables.

"The key differentiator with detachable laptops is having two devices in one," says Yuji Wakabayashi, Product Manager, Toshiba of Canada. "The ability to go from laptop to tablet gives these products the convenience and flexibility that's very well suited for a mobile lifestyle."

When packing for a vacation, it's always good to pack light. And new detachable laptop technology makes this easier than ever.

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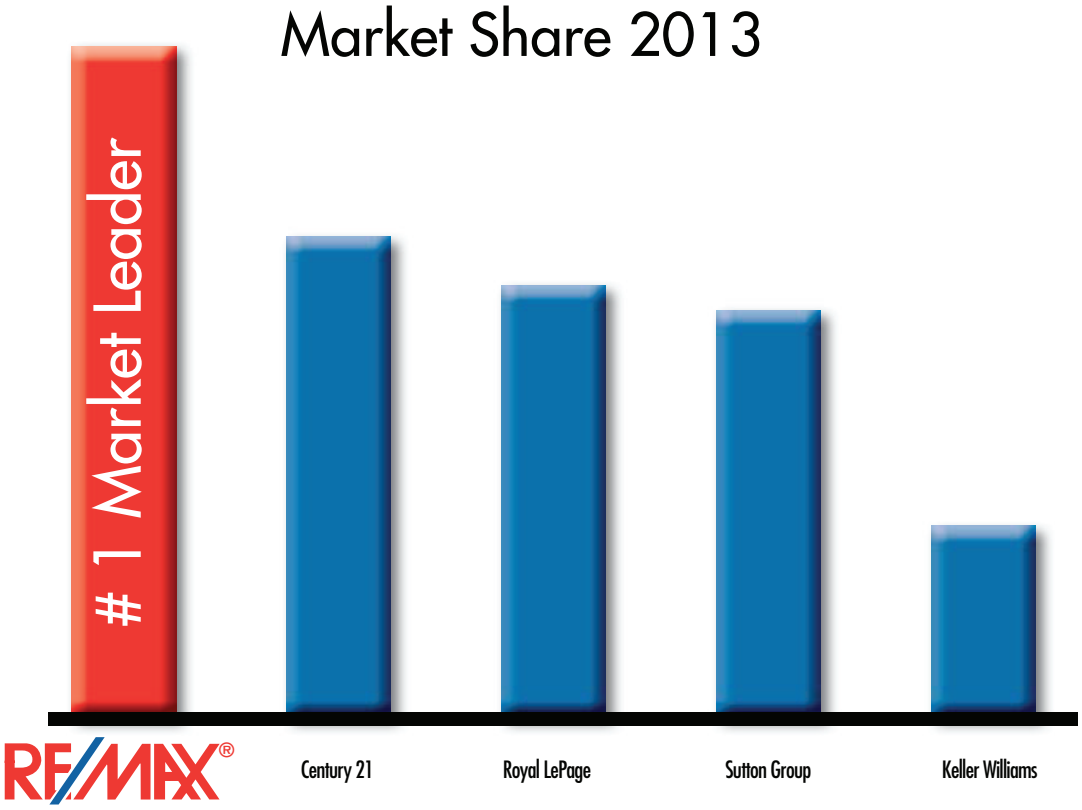

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Keep clean-up a breeze this barbecue season

(NC) There's nothing better than firing up the grill and enjoying your summertime favourites on the patio. But even if your next barbecue masterpiece is finger-licking good, it can still leave a mess.

Spend less time on prep and clean-up and more time enjoying the season with these easy backyard barbecue tips, courtesy of the Canadian paper towel brand, Royale Tiger Towel:

• Save trips back and forth to the kitchen. Use a sturdy tray or condiment caddy to carry your favourite toppings, cutlery and napkins in one trip.

• Don't let spills and messes build up on the outside of your barbecue. As soon as the surface cools, spray it with barbecue-friendly cleaner and wipe with a paper towel. Do the same for any work surfaces and patio furniture.

• Corn on the cob is a staple for many backyard meals, but removing the silk can be tough. Make it easy by running a moistened paper towel over the kernels after the husk has been removed.

• Keep paper towels secure and within reach by attaching the holder to the bottom of a picnic table. Then, just pop in a roll as needed.

• Help create a non-stick surface and reduce the mess that's left behind after grilling by dipping a paper towel in a small amount of oil, holding it with metal tongs and carefully rubbing it over the barbecue grate.

• Quickly chill drinks by wrapping a bottle or can with a wet paper towel and sticking it in the freezer for approximately 10 to 15 minutes. Just keep track of the time to ensure drinks don't freeze all the way to avoid an unwanted mess.

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Breathe new life into old rusty items

(NC) As many homeowners can attest, summer is by far the best time to take on DIY projects around the home. From major renovations to minor repairs, getting to work just seems easier with a nice warm breeze.

This renewed summer feeling also brings out the desire for homeowners to take inventory of their items, especially deciding what can stay and what must go. But before you scrap old items like rusted bikes or broken down wagons, consider an 'upcycle' project instead. Millions of Canadians are joining the upcycling trend by updating old outdoor items, and it can be easier than you think with the right tools.

Upcycling Outdoors

One of the biggest issues homeowners run into with outdoor pieces is rust and water damage. When items such as bikes, gazebos or even iron fences are left to endure winter weather, they can accumulate rust patches and corrosion, which are not only an eyesore, but can reduce the life span of the structure. One simple solution when working with rusted items is to improve the look and protect from further damage with a high-quality rust paint, such as Tremclad.

"That one product has been around for decades helping so many treasured items last longer," says Lawrence Genga, the senior director of marketing and research and development at Rust-Oleum Consumer Brands Canada. "The science behind Tremclad works to penetrate rust and help inhibit further occurrence."

When using a rust product, the most important quality to look for is durability. The more durable your product, the less you will have to apply in the long run and the better protection your item will have from further water damage.

Another key consideration when doing outdoor projects? The weather. Not just when it comes to the durability of your project, but when applying your paint or products. Be sure to follow temperature instructions closely and select days with low wind for best results on your next upcycle project.

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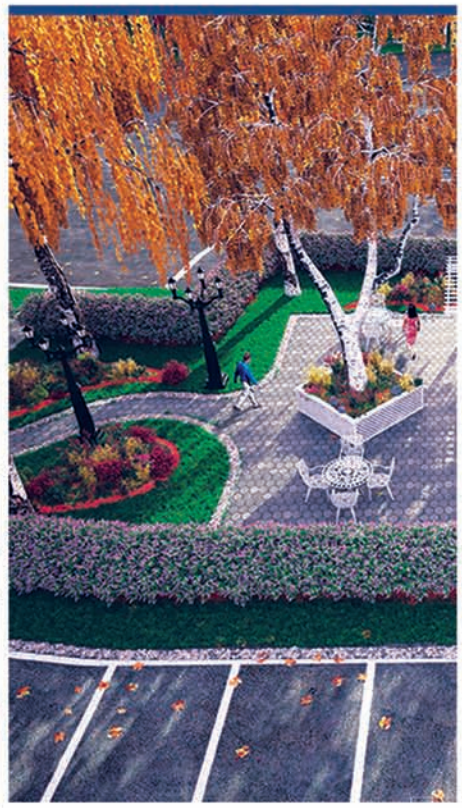

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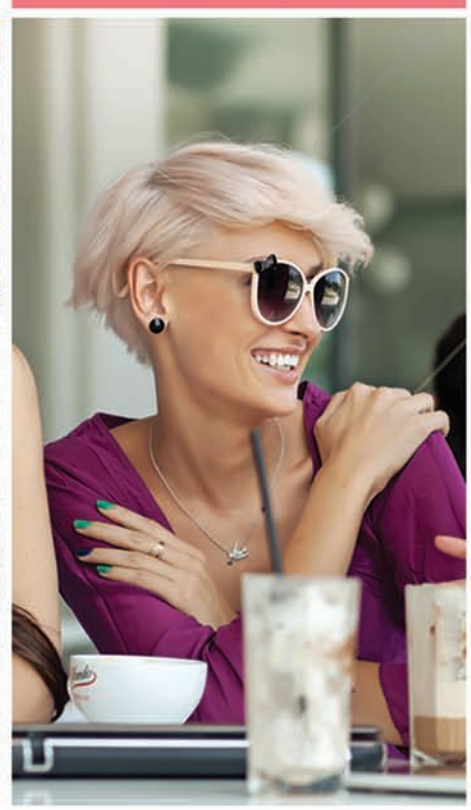

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Is it hard to finish the home projects you start?

(NC) It's no secret that the DIY trend is growing in Canada. Homeowners are taking on more projects themselves, from major renovations to small repairs, interior and exterior design and crafting.

In fact, Ipsos Reid research firm recently reported that in the last year, 73% of Canadian's have taken on a DIY home improvement project – not a surprising number considering the tightening budgets and growing independence of the population. These DIYers are turning to new ways to get the job done and finding pride and savings in the projects they complete.

Although taking on such projects is popular, it turns out that finishing them is the real challenge. This insight is the inspiration behind a new resource, www.helpingyoufinish.ca – an online community dedicated to educating, inspiring and helping us to cross the DIY finish line.

"Our company has been working with homeowners for almost a century, so we know the challenges you face – and we're here to help," says Lawrence Genga, the senior director of marketing and research and development at Rust-Oleum Consumer Brands Canada. "We want to instill confidence and pride in Canadians and inspire them to not only take on new projects, but to finish what they've started. Our digital resource provides step by step guidance, plus ideas, tips and techniques for success. It also connects you with like-minded Canadians who truly love all things DIY."

A platform for sharing experiences, as well as one-on-one access with project experts, the new helpingyoufinish.ca community is a resource for those seeking answers, ideas or inspiration.

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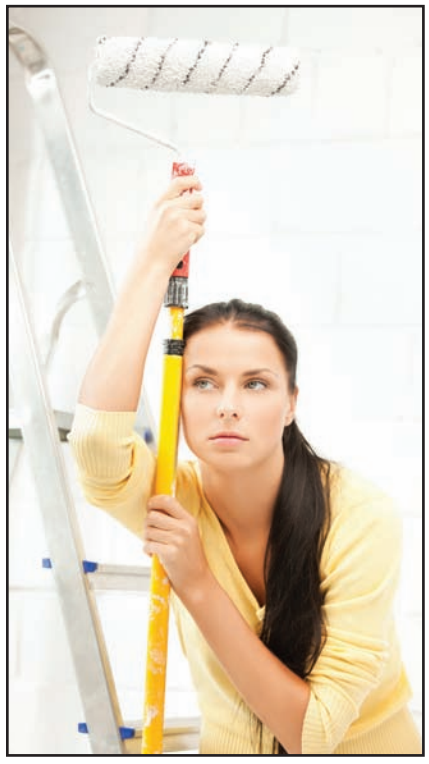

Home ownership is now easier for newcomers

(NC) Buying your first home in Canada can be a challenging experience – and for newcomers, who may not understand the mortgage process, it can be even more so. Many immigrants express that they don't understand the nuances, and others have certain preconceived notions that don't always hold true, like requiring a credit history to obtain a mortgage.

According to a recent poll from the Royal Bank of Canada, 56 per cent of newcomers believe that a Canadian credit history is required in order to get a mortgage. This is a myth. In reality, the financial path for newcomers is much brighter, and much easier, than people might think.

"Newcomers to Canada who have been in the country less than five years, no longer need to produce a credit history for an RBC mortgage," says Christine Shisler, the director of multicultural markets. "We listened to the needs of immigrants and made some enhancements to our policies, making it easier for newcomers to get settled. The change to our newcomer mortgage program gives people more time to qualify and more time to save for their down payment."

Shisler's three tips for potential homebuyers:

1. Get pre-approved

When you are pre-approved for a mortgage, you can shop for a home with confidence. Meet with a mortgage specialist before you tour open houses – you'll have a clearer picture of what you can afford and that will take some of the stress out of the home buying process.

2. Know the hidden costs

Beyond the mortgage amount, legal fees and land-transfer taxes are common examples of costs that often aren't accounted for when purchasing a home. Speak to a mortgage specialist to make sure you know all the associated costs.

3. Keep your total budget in mind

Allow for a little wiggle room so that you'll have some funds in reserve for ongoing home ownership costs, your lifestyle needs and any unexpected expenses that may arise.

The poll also showed that many newcomers (44 per cent) don't know which products are right for them. This is the main reason, says Shisler, to get personal guidance from a financial advisor or a mortgage specialist. More information is available at rbc.com/settlequick or at any RBC branch.

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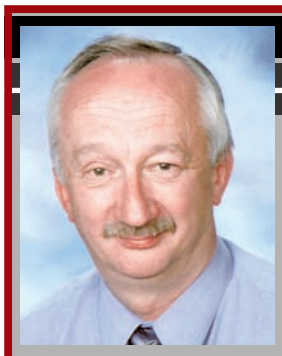

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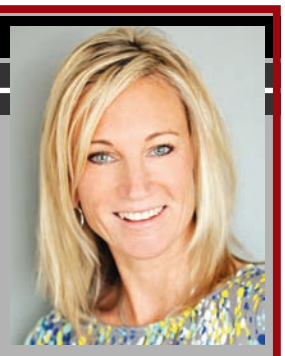

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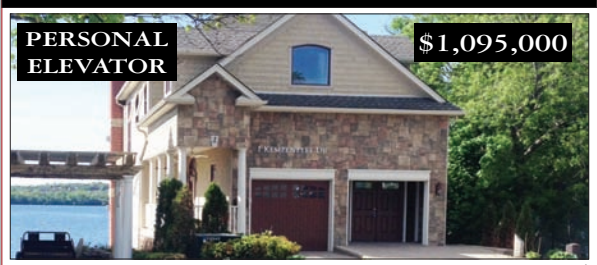

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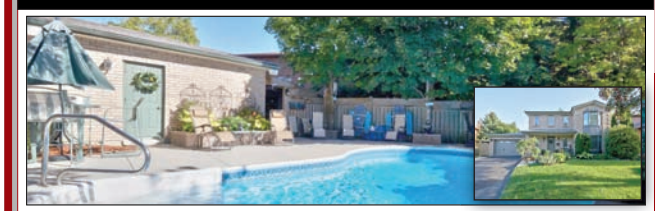
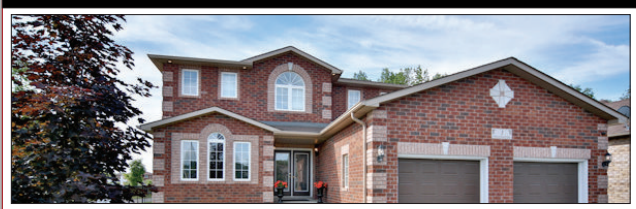


Fabulous backyard designed for entertaining. Featuring 5 yr old Koho salt water pool (waterfall), out door shower, cedar sauna (4 yrs old), built-in napoleon outdoor gas fireplace. Absolutely spotless 2 storey on mature Allandale pie shaped lot.

CAESARSTONE KITCHEN



Exceptional all brick home modified from it's original floor plan. Large custom kitchen with dark cabinetry, caesarstone countertop, massive gourmet island for entertaining!!

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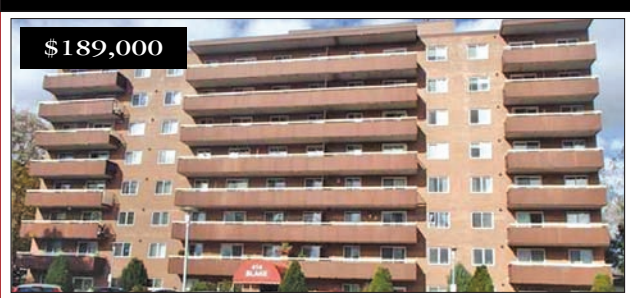
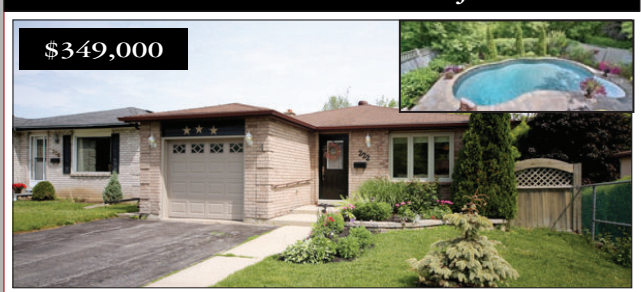


Sought after Condo building. 2 bedroom with walk out onto deck. Mainicured lawns and gardens. 2nd floor unit features secure designated underground parking space and lovely patio walkout! Wont last long!!!

WALKOUT BASEMENT WITH MAJESTIC POOL



Privacy plus offered in this 2.1 bedroom bungalow with walk-out basement to stunning ravine lot. Features include beautiful 4yr kidney shaped majestic in-ground pool (gas heated), new flooring, gas fireplace, new windows, large 4 season sunroom addition.

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Rynics Day Spa

Barrie Sports Dome

BARRIE Core WELLNESS CENTRE

frugal fridays

Check www.thebarrieexaminer.com daily for new frugal deals.
This is just a tease of whats to come.

Friday July 18th - 8am

How to spend less on natural gas

(NC) With thermostats turned down and windows pushed open, many Ontarians are not thinking about their natural gas bills in summer months. However, according to Enbridge Gas Distribution, next to home heating, the greatest source of natural gas costs comes from heating water and swimming pools.

To use less energy and save money after an unusually long and cold winter, here are a few ways to do it:

Turn your thermostat down. Before opening your windows to enjoy the warm summer breeze, remember to lower the temperature on your thermostat or turn it off completely.

Use ceiling fans. The air flow created by ceiling fans can cool a room. Ceiling fans also lessen the reliance on air conditioning.

Keep drapes and shades closed. Even if your windows are closed, they can still let a lot of heat into your home. When it's hot outside, close your drapes and shades to keep your house cool.

Use a solar blanket on your pool. Cover your pool overnight to keep the water warm and reduce water evaporation.

Wash clothing in cold water. Hot water is rarely needed to clean your laundry.

Install low-flow showerheads. Consider installing low-flow showerheads to help reduce water consumption and lower natural gas use.

Keep your furnace filter clean: Make sure your furnace is working at peak efficiency by cleaning or replacing the filter regularly. A clean filter will help a central air conditioner provide better air flow throughout your house.

Plug the leaks: Use the nice weather as an opportunity to weatherize your home. Small changes, such as caulking or weather-stripping doors and windows, can provide energy savings when the weather cools. More significant changes, like installing Energy Star windows, will help keep the cool air in during the warmer months.

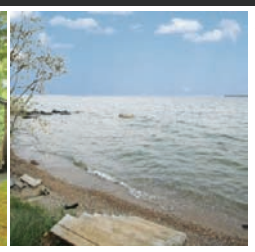
Additional tips can be found online at www.enbridgegas.com/energyefficiency.

www.newscanada.com

THE MARKET IS ON FIRE!

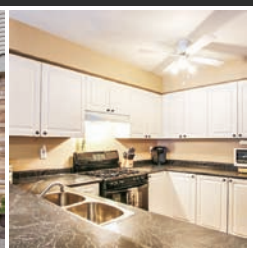
ATTENTION! We have active buyers waiting for new listings! Please call if you are interested in selling your home!

$149,900 ★NEW PRICE - DEEDED LAKE ACCESS!★ ID#36368C



Affordable cottage life! This charming 3 season, 3 bedroom cottage is just a short walk to a beautiful & private deeded beach area on Lake Simcoe. Very clean & cozy inside with fresh light "beachey" feel colours and low maintenance flooring. Spacious living/dining room open to the kitchen area with new fridge & stove. Large back yard surrounded by mature trees. Located on a quiet cottage street with easy access to Hwy 11. Tons of potential!

$215,500 ★ NEW LISTING! ★ ID# 134336C

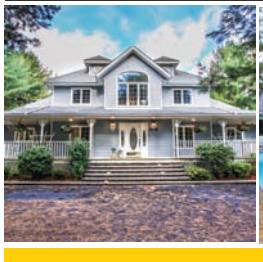


Ultra convenient loc'n! 3 bdrm townhome with very quick access to HWY 400, GO station + all amenities. Bright open concept with hardwood and upgraded kitch w/ extra cabinets & breakfast bar. All appliances included. Patio drs walk-out to huge deck & private yard. Master features semi-ensuite bath + walk-in. 2nd flr laundry! Condo fee incl all ext maint. New roof in 2013. Part fin bsmt. Affordable & convenient!

$499,900 ★NEW PRICE – GREAT VALUE!★ ID#121628C

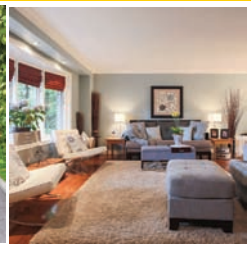
Rare opportunity in a very desirable & mature Midhurst neighborhood! Over 1/3 acre, adjacent to 1 acre Cowdray Park and across street from Midhurst Nature Trail. Very well-built all-brick home w/ nearly 3000sqft fin, 4 bdrms, 3 baths and great finished bsmt! Fine finishings incl hardwood, wood f/p, pot lts, glass door shwrs and new high eff furnace. Bright dinette with walkout to huge deck o/looking massive yard!

$875,000 ★NEW PRICE!★ ID#79746C



Spectacular original owner home located in premiere estate area. Beautiful 1.5 ac property, over 7000sqft finished, massive circular driveway + triple garage, separate multi-level in-law apartment. Incredible entertainment room overlooking pool area. 7 bdrms, 5 baths, unique 3rd floor bdrm plus finished bsmt. Fantastic yard for entertaining with IG salt water pool, massive patio and volleyball court. Extremely desirable in-town estate area. Perfect combo of privacy & convenience.

$550,000 • AMAZING VALUE!! OPEN HOUSE • SUN. 2 - 4 • ID#129963C

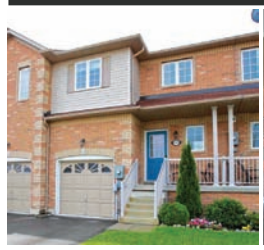
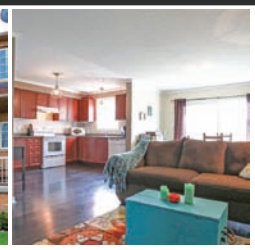


Sophisticated 5 bdrm character home in Allandale directly across from 5.7ac park. Too many updates to list...see full write-up. New kitchen w/ granite, wdws, drs & trim, prem shingles, siding/fascia/shutters, new deck/ pergola, cobblestone walkway.... Elegant clrs & finishings incl premium hardwood, crown, pot lts + built-in cabinetry. Updated baths incl standalone tub & glass shower. Unique 3-season rm w/ skylights!

$355,000 ★NEW LISTING!★ ID# 136239C

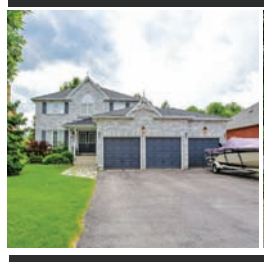
Well-maintained bungalow on large lot surrounded by mature trees. Brand new roof (Jul 2014), new a/c (2013), updated e-panel, newer furn & wdws. Mature gardens, pattern concrete drive/walkway, beautiful yard with lush grass, huge maple & terraced deck/patio. Large living rm with huge wdw + hardwood, formal dining + great rm addition with gas f/p, gorgeous stone surround and patio door w/out to deck. Seperate basement entrance.

$274,900 ★NEW LISTING!★ ID#134883C

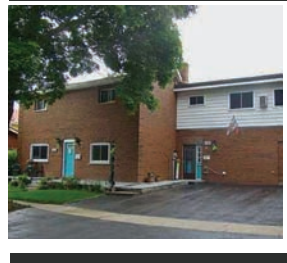
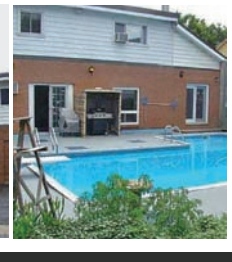
Tastefully upgraded 3 bdrm townhome in desirable Innisfil neighborhood. Very close lake, parks, rec ctr & schools. Bright open concept l/o with huge patio doors o/looking exceptionally good size yard. Gorgeous hardwood t/out main + spacious kitchen with rich coloured cabinetry, backsplash and upgraded light fixtures. 3 generous size bdrms with large closets plus full semi-ensuite bath. High eff furnace & A/C.

$419,900 ★SHORT WALK TO THE BEACH!★ ID# 133457C



Exceptional value near the lake! This home features a rare triple car garage, huge yard and countless fine finishings. Very bright and practical open concept layout on the main floor, generous size bedrooms and tastefully renovated main bath. Very nicely renovated kitchen with high end Jenn Air stainless appliances. Huge deck overlooks the massive yard surrounded by mature trees. Other notable items include hardwood floors & stairs, extensive panel moulding, gas fireplace, free-standing soaker tub....

$475,000 ★LEGAL TRIPLEX + NANNY SUITE★ ID#100266C

Attention Investors! Legal triplex with additional granny suite in convenient loc'n close to downtown Barrie, public transit, shopping & all amenities. Complex includes (1) 3 bdrm/2 bath unit, (2) 1 bdrm/1 bath unit + granny suite.... all generating income. Nicely landscaped yard with shared access inground pool. Shared coin laundry, large storage shed, hardwood floors and 2 fireplaces. Rents out very easily.

$987,000 ★INCREDIBLE WALK-OUT!★ ID#117090C

Absolute masterpiece on amazing 2.2ac property with breathtaking views! Not a single [illegible] ed, incredible pride of ow[illegible] sh[illegible]n alue! Details too [illegible]ume[illegible]s t[illegible]t [illegible]nging from brand new steel r[illegible]es[illegible]nally landscaped and [illegible]per maintained property, incredible finish carpentry, outstanding kitch with leathered ctrs to the awesome theatre area. Long treed driveway + detached garage with car lift. An absolute must see!

TrishaBowman.com 705.796.4150 Trisha@TrishaBowman.com

Secure your principal home before heading to the cottage

(NC) Cottage season for many of us is the greatest lure of the year – and while it's natural to want to get out into the great outdoors as quickly as possible, it is also important to tie up loose ends at home before you head out. “When you're enjoying cottage life, the last thing you want is to be worrying about the safety of your home and belongings,” says Craig Richardson, a vice president at TD Insurance. “But it is important to take the extra time to make sure that your primary property is taken care of while you're gone. ”Richardson offers a quick list of items to run through before you leave for the weekend, a week, or the whole summer:

Secure your property – Secure your home, garage doors and windows. Consider buying a light switch timer to turn your lights on and off according to a schedule.

Pull the plug and stop the flow – Unplug televisions, computers, and kitchen appliances like your coffee pot before you leave. Turn your refrigerator on to “vacation mode” if possible. These steps will not only save power, but protect appliances from power surges. Consider turning off the main water valve before you leave, and drain all the pipes and appliances.

You've (probably) got mail – An overflowing mailbox is a sure sign that homeowners are away. Call the post office to temporarily halt mail if you will be away for an extended period of time, or arrange for a neighbour to collect it. Consider stopping newspaper delivery.

Revisit your home insurance policy –Did you know if you're away from your home for more than seven consecutive days you're required to make arrangements for someone to check in on your place? If you're travelling by road, you might pack a few necessities or favourite gadgets. Review your policy and check with your insurer for Time Away insurance to ensure you're covered.

Keep neighbours in the know – Make arrangements for a trusted friend or neighbour to check on your home. Share your contact information in case of an emergency.

If you've checked off everything on this list, you can enjoy your home-away-from-home knowing your city residence is better protected. More information can be found at www.tdinsurance.com.

www.newscanada.com

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Saturday: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
Sunday: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

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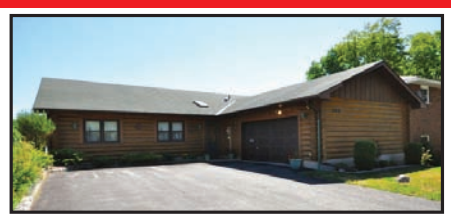
BEAUTIFUL LOG BUNGALOW
199 ANNE ST N., BARRIE



A home that will stand out from the ordinary. Such a different feeling. Enjoy the warmth, serenity and comfort of a classic log home. Large open concept with w/out to an extra large, beautiful and private yard. 3 bed, 2 bath, master w/5 pce ensuite, eat in kitchen, stylish mirrored skylight in foyer. Cathedral ceiling in L/R with beautiful field stone fireplace. Large family rm w/amazing log bar. Perfect for entertaining family and friends. Shows +++ 199 Anne St N.
MLS1404906 $398,500

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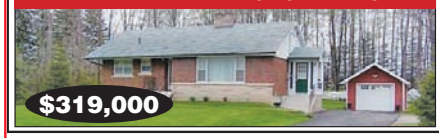
OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY 2 - 4
HWY #11 AND LINE 7 ORO - MEDONTE

$319,000

A solid brick bungalow. 3+1 bedroom. Finished rec room. Detached garage. 2 sheds. Treed backyard. Eat-in kitchen with walkout to private deck. Living room with wood fireplace. Very clean well cared for home. MLS#1404297

DaveWalker.ca

Dave Walker
Sales Representative
Direct 705.309.9014

NEW LISTING
$289,900

Potential for extra income
- Recently Updated
- In-law Suite near College & Hosiptal
- Family friendly neighbourhood
- 2000 sqft., 3.1 bdrms, 2 bath

For more detailed information go to: www.DaveWalker.ca/39Hickling

'Sandwich generation' caregivers get peace of mind

(NC) – They're called the "sandwich generation" working adults who have taken on the role of caring for an aging or ill parent while still raising their own children and pursuing a career. Membership to this group is growing every year as the Canadian population ages.

In fact, according to Statistics Canada, more than 2 million Canadians, mostly women between 35 and 44 years old, are "sandwiched" between caring for their young children and aging parents at the same time.

This can sometimes mean their resources, both mental and physical, are spread too thin which can also lead to worry and guilt when it comes time to leave the senior home alone.

Part of the worry is for potential medical emergencies or falls that could occur since seniors are at a much greater risk of falling. According to Health Canada every year, one in three seniors will fall at least once and falls account for more than half of all injuries among Canadians 65 years and over.

These were some of the concerns sandwich generation member Lisa Fazari of Richmond Hill, Ontario had as she looked for solutions to help care for her 83-year-old mother Ursula Calderon while also caring for her teenage daughters.

Fazari's mother's activity level had decreased dramatically since the Osteoarthritis in her legs caused her to slow down and be more cautious, yet she was adamant that giving up her independence of living alone wasn't an option.

"My concern for my mom living on her own was the fact that even though she's aging she's very determined to live independently, she loves to maintain her regular routine and do her own thing," explained Fazari. "But the fact is, she can have an accident any time and I'm very concerned that nobody would reach her fast enough to help her out should she fall."

So Lisa looked into LifeCall, a personal medical alert device to help give her and her family the peace of mind they need to know her mother will be assisted if ever she experiences a medical emergency while home alone.

LifeCall, a division of Reliance Protectron Security Services, can assist seniors or those who are physically or chronically ill. It can be worn as a bracelet or as a pendant.

Coupled with the two-way voice communicator that is installed in Calderon's home, Fazari now has the assurance that comes with knowing her mother will receive emergency assistance in a timely manner if necessary and that she will be notified.

"The key features that I love about LifeCall are the panic button and its ability to determine if she's fallen or not. It's the solution that we've been looking for- for a long time," she added. The device features a built-in panic button as well as an optional intelligent pendant with fall detection.

As an additional layer of protection, the fall detection option works by sensing a sudden vertical acceleration. A short delay following a fall allows the person to cancel the alarm if they can recover. If the fall alarm is not cancelled and help is needed, the individual is immediately connected with an operator in the monitoring centre. More information about senior safety at home is available at lifecall.ca.

www.newscanada.com

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FACT:

Royal LePage Agents Sell 90% more Real Estate on Average Than the Rest of the Industry*

News: Royal LePage announces the Agent Corporation Program. Contact Barbara Frueh, Broker of Record at (705)728-4067 or bff@royallepage.ca To find out how we can help qualified reps be more profitable through effective tax management and why making a move to Royal LePage First Contact Realty Brokerage could well be the best decision you have every made in your career.

*Average Royal LePage vs Average in the rest of the Industry. 2012 transactional volume, CREA, Royal LePage data

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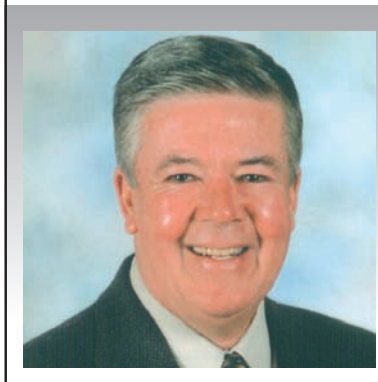
PRIVATE TREED LOT

Spacious 3 plus 1 bedroom family home on almost 1/3 acre, updated kitchen with loads of cupboards & W/O to 2 level deck, newer baths one with twin sinks, soaker tub & separate shower, finished rec room with W/O & wet bar, 3 car heated & insulated garage, mature neighbourhood, walk to the lake. **Asking $399,900.**



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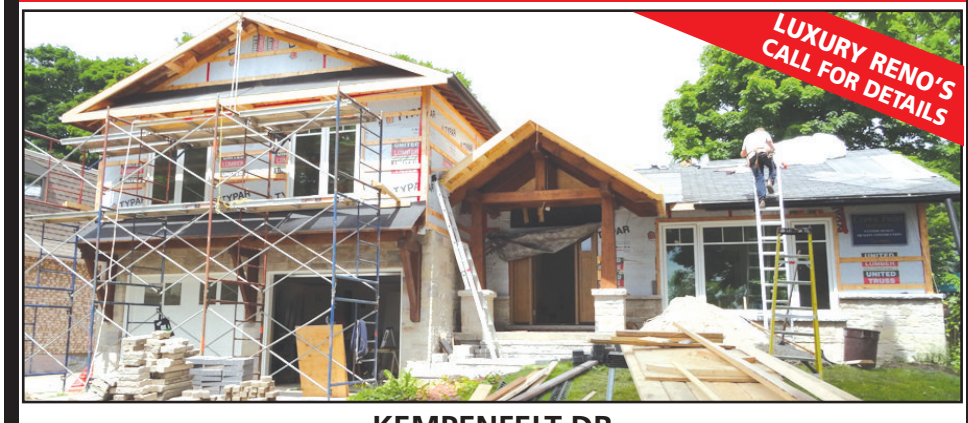
4 BEDROOM HOME BACKING ONTO BUSH...

Well maintained home with newer windows and roof...4 bedrooms, large eat-in kitchen w/ breakfast room & w/o to huge deck, hardwood floors, separate dining room, bright living room, home office w/separate entrance, finished lower level w/ gas fireplace, home theatre & w/o to private back yard backing onto BUSH (no one behind), Close to schools, Go Train, shopping, rec centre. Move in condition, flexible closing shows 10+++

"TRANSFORMATION" IN PROGRESS... WOW



KEMPENFELT DR

Location...Location...Location...Large scenic lot with unobstructed views of Bay. Possibly one of Barrie's most desired locations!!! Ongoing luxury transformation currently in progress, features are many...open concept floor plan, designer kitchen, hardwood throughout, 3 large bedroom each with own sumptuous ensuites, two gas fireplaces, state of the art mechanical/ home automation systems and so much more. Call Walter for complete details...MLS # 1402118

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EXECUTIVE HOME IN PRESTIGIOUS MIDHURST!

- Beautifully maintained & up-graded home on mature ¾ acre lot
- Four plus bedrooms, 3 ½ Baths, Main floor laundry, family & spa rooms!
- Gorgeous kitchen w/gas cook top, conv oven, granite counters ++
- Lower level Rec rm w/gas f.p., wet bar, games room ++ Over 5,400 sq. ft. fin

HISTORICAL ST. PETER'S ANGLICAN CHURCH

- Approx. 2,600 sq ft with incredible vaulted ceilings
- Basement under addition w/kitchen area & church hall
- Original main church built in 1886
- Two oil furnaces, steel roof – Rare Opportunity!

5+ ACRES – HAWKESTONE

- Beautiful ravine, creek setting adjacent to Hawkestone Yacht Club
- 1,948 sq. ft. home with 4 bedrooms, 1 ½ Baths, Sep Dining rm
- Eat in kitchen, attached garage, wood burning fireplace
- Swim, Golf, Ski, Hiking ++ Minutes to Barrie and Orillia

103' WATERFRONT – CUSTOM LOG HOME

- Fabulous property with gorgeous 3,000 sq ft log home
- Character and charm through-out – fabulous views toward Big Bay Point
- Bright open kitchen adjacent to family room w/walk-out
- Dock, Marine Rails, Cabin/Bunkie – Great location just mins to Barrie

HAWKESTONE BUNGALOW!

- Super crescent location in village by the Lake!
- Raised bungalow w/3 bdrms up & one down
- Large family room w/brick & fieldstone fireplace
- Kitchen reno'd in past 4 years – carport, large paved driveway ++

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- "Rock Cottage Farm" 136 Acre horse farm
- Stone Century plus farmhouse beautifully maintained w/newer addition
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- Barn w/6 stalls, arena, sand ring, 10 paddocks, driving shed w/run in++

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Garage Sales Flea Markets | Garage Sales Flea Markets | Careers | Careers | Careers | Careers | Careers | Careers | Careers

Garage Sale
55 Briar Road
Saturday July 19th
8:00-1:00 p.m.
Something for Everyone!

Garage Sale
Saturday July 19th
279 Leacock Dr.
Hand and Power Tools,
Furniture,Books, Art, and MORE!
Rain or Shine!

Garage Sale - 17 MASTERS DRIVE
(ST. VINCENT & HAMNER)
Saturday July 19,2014 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Books (all like new), Xbox 360 games, Lego, Knitters & Krafters - Mary Maxim Kits - Baby Quilt, Pillow Covers, Shawl, Knitting needles and wool, Stereo Speakers, Bathroom/ Bedding Sets, and misc. Household items

Neighborhood Garage Sale
154-156 Cheltenham Rd.
Saturday July 19th
Starts at 8:00 a.m.
Moving Sale - Housewares, Linen, Furniture, Collectibles, Jewellery, and Small Appliances

Yard Sale - 14 Steel St.
Saturday July 19th
Starts at 8:00 a.m.
Dishes, Books, Household Items, and Furniture
Lots of Elvis "things"!

Merchandise

Garage Sales Flea Markets

Don't Miss Out

CONTENTS SALE
House & Garage
135 Big Bay Point Rd.
(corner of East St),
INNISFIL, ON.
Sat. July 19th &
Sun. July 20th, 8am-2.

Travel/ Entertainment

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Apartments

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Domestic Help /Janitor

Personal and Household Services - Domestic Caretaker
Couple with young family preferable required for property in King City west of Hwy 400. Must have skills in general maintenance and landscaping. Responsibilities include maintaining the property, garden and other tasks as directed. Salary up to $50K plus detached single house on property and amenities. If interested please contact kingcitygatekeeper@gmail.com. Only people who meet these requirements should apply.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- **Utility Locator/Service Person (1 year contract)**
- **Human Resources – File Clerk (6 month contract)**

The Town of Innisfil is seeking applications from professionals who have a passion for their work and relevant experience. Please visit the Town's website or call Human Resources at 705-436-3710 for full details.

Thank you to all applicants. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Personal information will be used to determine eligibility for potential employment and is pursuant to the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Questions regarding this collection should be addressed to Human Resources.

Accommodations for persons with disabilities will be provided, on request, to support candidate participation in all aspects of the recruitment process. To request accommodation, please contact Human Resources.

innisfil.ca

Innisfil

General Help Wanted

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, BARRIE, ONT.
is seeking a 2 yr contract full time
CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES DIRECTOR
to commence employment in August 2014. For more details visit www.firstbaptistbarrie.com and click on the "hiring link". Resumes will be received until July 25, 2014.

Administrative Office

Transport and Storage - Materials - Accounting Clerk For general accounting function journal entries balance sheets supporting controller. Associate degree in Accounting required.
applynow@chantlertransport.com

Skilled Trades & Construction

TELECOM/TOWER CONSTRUCTION
Rigarus Construction is currently accepting resumes for [EXPERIENCED] Aerial Techician/ Rigger, Welder/Fitter & Truck Drive. Travel Req'd; Travel/Accom. company paid. Send resumes to hr@rigarus.com or Fax 519-669-2440

Adult

Adult Entertainment

CRYSTAL, Swedish beauty, 5' 2", 120 lbs. 36D 26 36. Blue eyes, brown hair with highlights. In Orillia 1-249-877-5900

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Innisfil

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705.436.3710
Office Hours:
Monday to Friday
8:30am to 4:30pm

Community Bulletin

JULY 18, 2014

Town Council Meetings

Wednesday, July 23, 2014
• 5:30 pm Regular Council Meeting

Wednesday, August 13, 2014
• 7:15 pm Regular Council Meeting

Meetings subject to change. Please visit the Town's website to view the most updated listing.

Board/Committee Meetings

Bradford West Gwillimbury/Innisfil Police Services Board
July 21, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., Innisfil Town Hall, Community Room

Heritage Committee
August 7, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. Innisfil Town Hall Community Rooms B&C

Community Health Committee
August 21, 2014 at 1:30 p.m., Town Hall Community Rooms B&C

Meetings subject to change. Please visit the Town's website to view the most updated listing.

Getting Married?

Notice

RESERVED PARKING AREA
Lot 'B' at Innisfil Beach Park

Is now reserved for Innisfil Residents Only displaying a valid Resident Parking Permit. The Permit must be clearly displayed at all times in the front windshield of the vehicle.

Vehicles not displaying a valid Resident Permit will be ticketed and/or towed at the owner's expense.

Please refer to Parks By-law 098-07 on the Town's website or contact Customer Service at 705-436-3710 for more information.

Employment Opportunities

Utility Locator/Service Person (1 year contract)-
closes July 30, 2014

Human Resources – File Clerk (6 month contract)-
closes July 30, 2014

Please visit Employment Opportunities on the Town's website for more details.

2014 Municipal Election Nominations

Nominations for the offices of Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors for the 2014 Municipal Elections may be filed during normal office hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. starting January 2, 2014 until September 11, 2014. On Nomination Day, September 12, 2014, nomination papers may be filed or withdrawn between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. A nomination filing fee of $200.00 for office of the Mayor, and $100.00 for all other offices must accompany the Nomination Papers. The filing fee is payable by cash, debit, certified cheque or money order.

Information and prescribed nomination forms may be obtained at Innisfil Town Hall, 2101 Innisfil Beach Road, Innisfil, or on our website www.innisfil.ca, commencing January 2, 2014.

Nomination Papers for the following positions must be filed at Innisfil Town Hall, 2101 Innisfil Beach Road, Innisfil:

- Mayor
- Deputy Mayor
- Councillor (1 for each of 7 wards)

Nomination Papers for School Board Trustee must be filed at the designated location for that particular School Board. Further details pertaining to School Board Trustees and filing locations may be obtained from the Town of Innisfil Clerk's Office.

Please Note:
You **must** file a Nomination Paper before you can solicit or accept contributions for election purposes, or incur expenses.

For further information please contact Clerk Services at the Town of Innisfil.

Karen Fraser
Returning Officer/Acting Clerk
Town of Innisfil
2101 Innisfil Beach Road
Innisfil, ON L9S 1A

Municipal Election

Cookstown Church Redesignation

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DESIGNATE

IN THE MATTER OF THE ONTARIO HERITAGE ACT, R.S.O. 1990 CHAPTER 0.18 as amended and in the matter of the property known as the COOKSTOWN UNITED CHURCH located at 37 Queen Street, being Lot 10, East Part Lot 11, Plan 252, Cookstown in the Town of Innisfil, County of Simcoe, in the Province of Ontario, TAKE NOTICE that the Council for The Corporation of the Town of Innisfil intends to designate COOKSTOWN UNITED CHURCH under Part IV of The Ontario Heritage Act, R.S.O. 1990, c.0.18, as amended.

Statement of Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

This dominant church building standing at the western edge of Cookstown, has been a landmark and an important part of community life since 1915. The church is beautifully lighted through windows of opalescent leaded glass trimmed with amber and green. The wonderful pictorial window at the north end of the church "Suffer Little Children to Come unto Me" was completed and installed by the Luxfer Prism Company of Toronto. Exposed timbers of Georgia pine stained an ash colour to match the seating and choir front. There is an oak pulpit of artistic design, beautiful seating, choir front, pulpit table and communion railing. The fine toned bell was installed in the belfry as a memorial to the young men who fell in the Great War of 1914-1918, in France and Flanders.

For further information, please contact the Heritage Committee Coordinator, Clerk Services at 705-436-3740, ext: 2414. **Notice of objection to the designation may be served on the Town Clerk no later than 4:30 p.m. on August 18, 2014**. The Corporation of the Town of Innisfil, 2101 Innisfil Beach Road, Innisfil, ON L9S 1A1, Attention Karen Fraser, Acting Clerk.

Farmers' Market BBQ Sizzle

Library Employment Opportunity

Innisfil Public Library Board invites applications for the position of STUDENT PAGE.

Please mail, fax or email resumes by 5:00 p.m., on Saturday, July 26, 2014 to:

J. Asselstine, Deputy Chief Librarian
Innisfil Public Library
Box 7049, Innisfil, Ontario L9S 1A8
FAX : 705-431-4898
Email: jasselstine@innisfil.library.on.ca
Subject line to read: Student Page Application